

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERN 02023 070717Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EB-07 OMB-01
TRSE-00 COME-00 L-03 MC-02 ACDA-07 /074 W
-----071905Z 067429 /41

R 061700Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4314
INFO SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 2023

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, SZ
SUBJ: POSSIBLE VISIT TO US OF RUDOLP GNAEGI, SWISS
DEFENSE MINISTER

1. FEDERAL COUNCILOR (DEFENSE MINISTER) RUDOLPH GNAEGI TOLD ME LAST NIGHT THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE US LATE THIS YEAR. HE SAID THAT HE CANNOT MAKE ANY FIRM PLANS UNTIL IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT OFFSET IS REALLY GOING WELL. WITHOUT THE AWARD OF SOME LARGE CONTRACT TO A SWISS FIRM BEFORE, DURING OR JUST AFTER HIS TRIP, GNAEGI WOULD BE EXPOSED TO THE ACCUSATION BY OPPONENTS THAT EVEN HIS PERSONAL EFFORTS FAILED TO ACHIEVE RESULTS HE HAD PROMISED WHEN THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED. EXPANDING ON THIS THEME, GNAEGI SAID HE HAD BEEN HEAVILY CRITIICIZED FOR TWO EARLIER DECISIONS, ON THE MIRAGE SKYHAWK COMPETION RESULT AND ON PROLONGONG SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A SWISS ANTI-TANK WEAPON (NORA) BEYOND THE POINT AT WHICH IT BECAME CLEAR THE SYSTEM WAS A FAILURE.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: FORMER SECRETARY RUMSFELD,
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IN A CONVERSATION WITH SWISS AMB PROBST, (SECDEF SPECAT 3988, AUG 4, 1976) SAID HE WOULD WELCOME GNAEGI VISIT IF GNAEGI BELIEVED EXCHANGE OF VIEWS USEFUL. GNAEGI MAY HAVE HAD THAT IN MIND IN RAISING THE QUESTION WITH ME. MUCH MORE IMPORTANT TO HIM WAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL US, ONCE AGAIN, HOW VULNERABLE HE FEELS

ON THIS ISSUE.

DAVIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STANDARDS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, ANTITANK WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERN02023
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770161-0756
Format: TEL
From: BERN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770587/aaaacwyq.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 39ca8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2621226
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE VISIT TO US OF RUDOLP GNAEGI, SWISS DEFENSE MINISTER
TAGS: MASS, SZ, US, (GNAEGI, RUDOLPH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/39ca8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009